

## Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STRE-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-09 EUR-12  
NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 OIC-02 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01  
COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03  
LAB-04 NSC-05 PA-02 EPG-02 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01  
TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /127 W  
-----119343 192045Z /66

O R 191825Z JUL 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9394  
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

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USMTN

ACTION STR

PASS AGRI

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD MTN GATT  
SUBJECT: US STATEMENT AT MEETING OF GROUP AGRICULTURE,  
JULY 19, 1977

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF THE US STATEMENT AT THE  
SUBJECT MEETING WHICH INCLUDES THE US PROPOSAL FOR A  
REQUEST/OFFER APPROACH TO AGRICULTURAL NEGOTIATIONS.
  2. BEGIN TEXT: THE US WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE AT THIS  
POINT TO MAKE A BRIEF STATEMENT WHICH IS RELEVANT TO THE  
DISCUSSIONS OF THIS GROUP WITH RESPECT TO NEGOTIATIONS IN  
THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE.
  3. I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO MAKE THIS STATEMENT  
AT THIS TIME AS A CONTRIBUTION TO THESE IMPORTANT DISCUSSIONS
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AND IN ORDER TO PROVIDE DELEGATIONS AN OPPORTUNITY TO  
EXAMINE AND REACT TO THE US PROPOSALS IN ORDER TO  
FACILITATE AGREEMENT AT THIS MEETING TO A WORK PROGRAM  
FOR GROUP AGRICULTURE WHICH WOULD PERMIT NEGOTIATIONS TO  
BEGIN.

PROPOSAL BY THE UNITED STATES

4. FOR MORE THAN A YEAR WORK HAS PROGRESSED IN GROUP "AGRICULTURE" IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURAL SUGGESTIONS IN MTN/W/24 AND GUIDELINES ELABORATED IN MTN/AG/4. THE RESULTING PROCESS OF NOTIFICATION AND CONSULTATION HAS BEEN USEFUL IN CLARIFYING THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE VARIOUS MEASURES APPLIED TO INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OTHER THAN THOSE COVERED BY THE PRODUCT SUB-GROUPS. DURING THIS PERIOD A MULTILATERAL EXAMINATION OF THE FACTORS AFFECTING TRADE IN GRAINS, MEAT AND DAIRY PRODUCTS HAS ALSO TAKEN PLACE IN THE SUB-GROUPS. THIS WORK HAS BEEN COMPLEMENTED BY INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AMONG DELEGATIONS.

5. THE UNITED STATES HAS ON REPEATED OCCASIONS STATED THAT MEANINGFUL PROGRESS IN THE LIBERALIZATION AND EXPANSION OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE IS VITAL TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF THIS ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS. THE WORK OF THE PAST YEAR HAS ESTABLISHED THE BASIS FOR ACHIEVING THIS GOAL. THE TIME IS NOW RIPE TO MOVE TO THE NEGOTIATING PHASE BY THE ADOPTION OF A REALISTIC AND CONCRETE WORK PROGRAMME. IN THE UNITED STATES VIEW, SUCH A PROGRAMME SHOULD INCLUDE BOTH BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL ASPECTS.

6. THE UNITED STATES BELIEVES THAT SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS CAN ONLY BEGIN WHEN COUNTRIES INDICATE ON A PRODUCT OR LINE-ITEM BASIS THOSE MEASURES WHERE LIBERALIZATION OR OTHER ACTION BY THE IMPORTING COUNTRY IS DESIRED. THE UNITED STATES PROPOSES THEREFORE THAT COUNTRIES SUBMIT BY 1 NOVEMBER

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REQUESTS ON ALL MEASURES, BOTH TARIFF AND NON-TARIFF.

7. IN OUR VIEW IT SHOULD BE OPEN TO ALL PARTICIPANTS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO MAKE REQUESTS ON ALL ITEMS THEY CONSIDER TO BE AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS. THIS PRAGMATIC PROCEDURE WOULD HELP ENSURE THAT THE NEGOTIATING INTERESTS OF INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES WITH RESPECT TO SPECIFIC MEASURES WILL BE ADDRESSED BY THEIR TRADING PARTNERS DURING THE MTN. A PROCEDURE OF THIS KIND MAY BE PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT WITH RESPECT TO PRODUCTS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE THREE SUB-GROUPS WHICH MAY NOT LEND THEMSELVES TO A MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENT. IN THE MEANTIME, THE THREE SUB-GROUPS WILL CONTINUE TO DEAL WITH THOSE ASPECTS OF THE COMMODITIES OF CONCERN TO THEM WHICH LEND THEMSELVES TO MULTILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS OR AGREEMENTS.

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01  
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INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 EPG-02  
AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-09  
EUR-12 NEA-10 OIC-02 /127 W  
-----119306 192048Z /66

O R 191825Z JUL 77  
FM USMISSION GENEVA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9395  
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS

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8. AN APPROPRIATE PERIOD WOULD BE PROVIDED TO ALLOW FOR ANALYSIS OF REQUESTS AND SUCH FURTHER CONSULTATIONS AS MAY BE REQUIRED TO CLARIFY THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE REQUESTS. SUBSEQUENTLY, AND BY 15 JANUARY, EACH PARTICIPANT WOULD SUBMIT ITS OFFERS, IN FULL ACCORDANCE WITH THE TOKYO DECLARATION THAT "THE NEGOTIATION SHALL BE CONSIDERED AS ONE UNDERTAKING, THE VARIOUS PARTS OF WHICH SHALL MOVE FORWARD TOGETHER."

9. AT THE SAME TIME, THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO THE WORK OF THE AGRICULTURAL SUB-GROUPS AND URGES INTERESTED COUNTRIES TO SUBMIT PROPOSALS FOR THE FUTURE WORK OF THESE GROUPS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATIONS CAN BEGIN IN THE FALL.

10. THE FOREGOING PROPOSAL, WHICH THE UNITED STATES IS MAKING IN THE "AGRICULTURE" GROUP, WILL BE FOLLOWED BY A SIMILAR UNITED STATES PROPOSAL IN THE NON-TARIFF MEASURES GROUP RELATING TO NON-TARIFF MEASURES FOR INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. IN ADDITION, WE LOOK FORWARD TO EARLY AGREEMENT ON A TARIFF NEGOTIATING PLAN. IN THE UNITED STATES VIEW THESE PROCEDURES FORM AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, ALONG WITH NEGOTIATIONS IN THE COMMODITY SUB-GROUPS AND ON MULTILATERAL  
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RULES FOR ISSUES SUCH AS SUBSIDIES AND COUNTERVAILING DUTIES, STANDARDS, SAFEGUARDS, GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT AND CUSTOMS VALUATION.

11. MY DELEGATION WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS ITS APPRECIATION TO THE GROUP FOR THE OPPORTUNITY OF MAKING THIS PROPOSAL AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS MEETING. THE US BELIEVES THAT,

IN ORDER TO ENTER INTO THE SUBSTANTIVE PHASE OF NEGOTIATIONS  
IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURE, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT GROUP  
AGRICULTURE REACH AGREEMENT ON A WORK PROGRAM. I HOPED  
OUR PROPOSAL WOULD BE RECEIVED FAVORABLY IN THIS LIGHT.  
THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO COOPERATE FULLY AND PRAG-  
MATICALLY IN THIS IMPORTANT TASK. END TEXT CULBERT

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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